

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN MAY 2025

Domestic primary aluminum production in May 2025 was 58,000 metric tons (t). The average daily production in May 2025 was 1,870 t, unchanged from that in April 2025, slightly more than that in May 2024, and 10% less than that in May 2023 (fig. 1, table 1).

Total aluminum recovered from scrap in May 2025 was 316,000 t, 7% more than that in April 2025 (revised), unchanged from that in May 2024, and 12% more than that in May 2023. Of this, 177,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, and 139,000 t was recovered from old scrap (fig. 1, table 1).

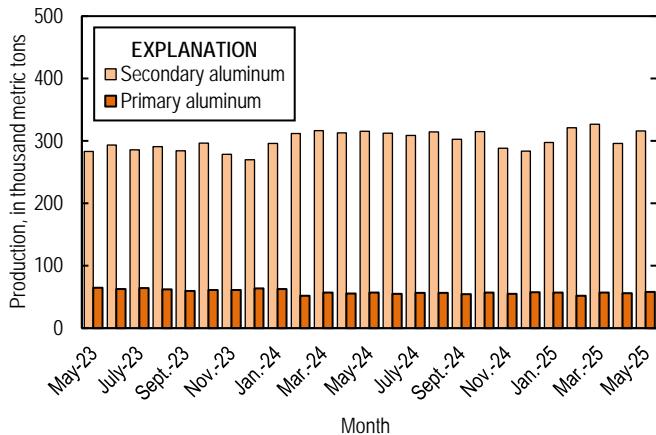


Figure 1. Monthly domestic primary and secondary aluminum production from May 2023 through May 2025.

Prices and Stocks

The May 2025 average U.S. spot market price of primary aluminum ingot was \$1.49 per pound, compared with \$1.47 per pound in April 2025, 9% more than that in May 2024, and 17% more than that in May 2023. The average cash price in May 2025 of primary aluminum ingot on the London Metal Exchange (LME) was \$1.11 per pound, 3% more than that in April 2025, 5% less than that in May 2024, and 8% more than that in May 2023 (fig. 2, table 6).

Inventories of primary aluminum in LME-approved warehouses, including off-warrant inventories, in the United States were 10,476 t at the end of May 2025, 56 t less than

those at the end of April 2025. Inventories of aluminum alloy (North American Special Aluminum Alloy Contract) in LME-approved warehouses, including off-warrant inventories, in the United States were 299 t at the end of May 2025, 16% less than those at the end of April 2025 (London Metal Exchange Ltd., 2025a, b).

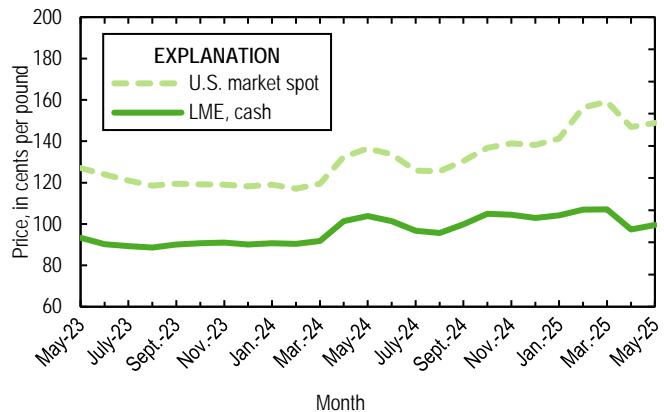


Figure 2. Average monthly prices for primary aluminum from May 2023 through May 2025. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

Updates

United States.—On July 9, EGA Spectro Alloys began production at its expanded recycling plant in Rosemount, MN. The approximately 8,400-square-meter (reported as 90,000 square feet) facility was expected to produce 55,000 metric tons per year (t/yr) of aluminum billets from scrap, increasing the plant's total capacity to 165,000 t/yr. Production at full capacity was anticipated in the first quarter of 2026 (EGA Spectro Alloys, 2025; Patrowicz, 2025).

On August 7, Century Aluminum Co. announced plans to restart more than 50,000 t/yr of idle capacity at its primary aluminum smelter in Mt. Holly, SC. The smelter, which is currently operating at 75% capacity, has a full production capacity of 229,000 t/yr. The facility was expected to reach full production by mid-2026 (Baer, 2025; Century Aluminum Co., 2025).

Global.—On July 14, Alcoa Corp. announced that it had resumed efforts to restart primary aluminum production at its smelter in San Ciprián, Spain. A power outage on April 28 had paused the restart process, which reportedly began earlier that month. The restart was expected to be completed by mid-2026. The San Ciprián smelter is operated by a joint venture between Alcoa and IGNIS Equity Holdings, S.L. (Spain) (Alcoa Corp., 2025; Kurata, 2025).

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- Baer, Jenna, 2025, Century Aluminum to restart South Carolina smelter: Argus Media group, Argus Metals International, August 8. (Accessed August 11, 2025, via <http://www.argusmedia.com/metals/>.)
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A worksheet has been added to the Excel table files that includes a button to remove text and numerical footnotes from data cells. This will allow users to only have numbers in data cells. Please see the worksheet titled "RemoveTextButton" for instructions on how to use the tool. Note: you must download the excel file to use the tool.

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Table 1. Components of aluminum supply.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons.
Revised data are marked with a superscript "r". NA, not available.]

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ¹			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ²	Stocks, end of period ³
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2024									
Total	676	2,120	1,560	3,680	3,600	1,220	4,830	9,180	1,690
May	57	182	134	316	270	120	390	763	1,800
June	55	178	134	312	340	106	446	813	1,690
July	57	174	134	309	293	113	406	771	1,690
August	56	181	133	314	268	94	362	733 ^r	1,800
September	55	175	127	303	332	94	426	783	1,660
October	57	182	133	315	297	96	393	765	1,680
November	55	168	120	288	263	110	373	716	1,710
December	57	165	119	284	297	86	383	724	1,690
January–May	284	892 ^r	661 ^r	1,550 ^r	1,510	525	2,040	3,900 ^r	NA
2025									
January	57	176	122	297	335	125	460	814	1,730
February	52	184	137	321	298	101	399	772	1,750
March	57	192	135	327	438	99	537	921	1,800
April	56	176 ^r	120	296 ^r	238	101	339	691 ^r	1,840
May	58	177	139	316	227	93	320	694	NA
January–May	280	905	653	1,560	1,540	518	2,060	3,890	NA

¹Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

²Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

³Inventory levels reflect total for U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

Table 2. Estimated full coverage consumption of and metallic recover from purchased new and old aluminum scrap.
 [Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons. Revised data are marked with a superscript "r".]

Period	Secondary smelters		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery
2024										
Total	2,740	2,070	1,650	1,510	101	93	3	3	4,500	3,680
May	228	173	148	135	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	384	316
June	227	173	144	131	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	380	312
July	227	171	142	129	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	378	309
August	227	171	148	135	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	384	314
September	229	173	134	122	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	372	303
October	232	174	145	132	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	386	315
November	225	170	121	111	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	355	288
December	224	170	117	106	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	349	284
January–May	1,150 ^r	873 ^r	701 ^r	639 ^r	42	39	1	1	1,890 ^r	1,550 ^r
2025										
January	227	172	129	118	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	365	297
February	230	175	151	138	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	389	321
March	236	178	154	141	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	398	327
April	228	170	128 ^r	118 ^r	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	364 ^r	296 ^r
May	205	160	159	145	8	8	(¹)	(¹)	373	313
January–May	1,130	855	720	659	42	39	1	1	1,890	1,550

¹Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ unit.

Table 3. Consumption of and recovery from purchased new and old aluminum scrap in May 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.]

Aluminum scrap	Consumption (metric tons)		Calculated metallic recovery (metric tons)	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	129,000	155,000	100,000	121,000
Independent mill fabricators	145,000	159,000	132,000	145,000
Foundries	7,110	8,530	6,510	7,810
Other consumers	242	290	242	290
Total	281,000	323,000	239,000	274,000

Table 4. Purchased and toll-treated aluminum-base scrap in May 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons.]

Aluminum-base scrap	May			January–May		
	Stocks, opening ¹	Net receipts ²	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ²	Melted or consumed
New scrap						
Extrusions	23,300	41,800	41,800	23,300	232,000	231,000
Can stock clippings	9,250	38,400	33,000	14,700	173,000	167,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	12,600	46,100	41,100	17,600	209,000	202,000
Castings	3,610	6,860	5,470	4,990	31,900	30,500
Borings and turnings	4,350	16,000	12,900	7,430	119,000	116,000
Dross and skimmings ³	14,800	71,300	51,600	34,600	268,000	245,000
Total new scrap	67,800	221,000	186,000	103,000	1,030,000	991,000
Old scrap						
Used castings	13,300	31,300	30,100	14,500	145,000	143,000
Used extrusions	7,880	14,200	13,400	8,610	68,000	67,100
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	59,000	70,600	64,100	65,500	315,000	240,000
Other wrought products	21,100	31,700	30,400	22,300	143,000	141,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	4,400	8,550	8,550	4,400	58,600	58,600
Total old scrap	106,000	156,000	147,000	115,000	729,000	650,000
Grand total, all classes	173,000	377,000	332,000	218,000	1,760,000	1,640,000

¹May include revisions to previously published data.²Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.³Gross volume of dross and skimmings. Recoverable aluminum content ranges from 15% to 50% of gross weight.

Table 5. Aluminum alloys produced at secondary smelters in the United States in May 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Excludes integrated aluminum companies. Data are in metric tons. —, not applicable.]

Aluminum alloys	May			January–May		
	Stocks, opening ¹	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,160	2,770	2,770	3,160	13,800	15,000
380 and variations	6,990	20,300	20,300	6,990	101,000	102,000
Sand and permanent mold						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,940	2,130	2,130	1,940	10,600	10,600
No. 319 and variations	1,200	1,390	1,390	1,200	6,940	6,940
F-132 alloy and variations	89	233	233	89	1,170	1,170
Al-Zn alloys	339	84	84	339	381	381
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	230	189	189	230	962	962
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	139	724	724	139	3,620	3,620
Other ²	4,060	4,470	4,470	4,060	22,400	22,400
Other						
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	20,900	62,600	62,600	20,900	313,000	313,000
Total all alloys	39,000	94,900	94,900	39,000	475,000	476,000
Less						
Primary aluminum consumed	—	15,700	—	—	78,300	—
Primary silicon consumed	—	1,680	—	—	8,400	—
Other alloying ingredients consumed	—	838	—	—	4,190	—
Other						
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ³	—	76,700	—	—	384,000	—

¹May include revisions to previously published data.

²Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Zn, Al-Cu, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

³No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

Table 6. Average price of aluminum in the United States and on the London Metal Exchange.

[Data are in cents per pound. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.]

Period	Midwest U.S. market price	LME cash price Grade A
2024		
May	136.524	116.334
June	133.738	113.154
July	125.870	107.137
August	125.571	105.865
September	130.393	111.185
October	136.848	117.840
November	138.940	117.150
December	138.200	115.126
January–December	129.509	109.697

Table 7. Average buying prices for aluminum scrap.

[Data are in cents per pound. Source: Fastmarkets-AMM.]

Period	Used beverage cans	Mixed low copper clips	Old sheet	Old cast	Turnings (clean and dry)
2024					
May	92.60	78.60	82.60	82.00	80.20
June	94.50	79.50	82.25	82.00	82.00
July	92.50	77.25	81.50	83.00	82.50
August	90.90	76.50	77.00	79.50	80.10
September	99.00	76.25	77.00	78.00	77.13
October	104.00	77.20	78.20	79.10	76.90
November	104.25	80.50	81.75	81.00	78.25
December	105.00	77.88	80.38	81.50	80.50
January–December	91.56	75.57	77.67	79.13	77.06
2025					
January	111.40	80.00	83.40	81.50	82.70
February	115.75	85.00	87.50	84.25	89.00
March	115.13	86.50	89.00	85.25	90.00
April	104.00	84.25	84.88	82.00	87.75
May	100.80	78.70	80.90	79.10	85.80
January–May	109.42	82.89	85.14	82.42	87.05

Table 8. U.S. imports for consumption of aluminum in May 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (<https://usatrade.census.gov/>.)]

Country or locality	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars ¹		Scrap		Total	
	May	January–May	May	January–May	May	January–May	May	January–May
Argentina	0	39,700	32	82	0	0	32	39,800
Australia	3,240	26,500	(³)	118	0	0	3,240	26,600
Austria	0	0	2,460	11,500	44	70	2,510	11,500
Azerbaijan	0	0	1,640	20,000	0	0	1,640	20,000
Bahrain	18,700	63,500	906	19,300	0	0	19,600	82,800
Belgium	19	80	1,170	8,030	0	218	1,190	8,330
Brazil	0	12,000	2,410	4,320	3,270	4,860	5,680	21,200
Canada	147,000	1,020,000	13,800	86,400	37,800	179,000	198,000	1,290,000
China ²	6	160	4,600	31,400	2	96	4,610	31,700
Colombia	0	0	183	1,430	2,050	6,520	2,230	7,950
Ecuador	76	76	1,610	7,100	74	563	1,760	7,740
France	658	1,710	337	2,020	18	168	1,010	3,890
Germany	0	149	1,410	6,220	1,010	4,980	2,420	11,300
Greece	0	0	2,250	15,800	70	209	2,320	16,000
Guatemala	0	0	0	0	1,340	7,290	1,340	7,290
Honduras	0	0	638	2,770	96	1,870	734	4,640
India	4,380	54,700	1,110	8,080	48	120	5,540	62,900
Indonesia	22	5,230	749	4,830	49	49	821	10,100
Italy	5	507	1,220	5,730	0	543	1,220	6,780
Japan	1	23	670	3,320	39	303	710	3,640
Korea, Republic of	304	5,290	21,700	103,000	308	560	22,400	108,000
Malaysia	0	3,440	300	3,570	1	37	300	7,040
Mexico	262	4,580	3,440	18,300	24,500	116,000	28,200	139,000
New Zealand	395	1,910	0	26	0	0	395	1,930
Norway	0	39	567	5,060	0	0	567	5,100
Oman	0	0	9,060	37,700	0	0	9,060	37,700
Panama	0	0	0	0	377	2,320	377	2,320
Poland	0	0	429	1,980	218	678	646	2,660
Qatar	423	16,900	0	2	0	0	423	16,900
Romania	0	0	528	3,010	0	0	528	3,010
Saudi Arabia	0	0	1,410	23,500	22	22	1,430	23,500
South Africa	0	19,800	2,170	8,780	0	0	2,170	28,500
Spain	114	1,320	845	8,270	802	1,630	1,760	11,200
Sweden	0	(³)	1,380	5,220	0	0	1,380	5,220
Thailand	261	1,100	4,750	19,100	10	48	5,020	20,300
Turkey	3	26	2,320	12,600	307	1,870	2,630	14,500
United Arab Emirates	51,400	257,000	48	1,630	67	496	51,500	260,000
United Kingdom	25	104	285	4,200	1,000	7,550	1,310	11,900
Vietnam	0	0	4,730	12,200	0	0	4,730	12,200
Other	78	752	2,090	12,200	3,140	13,400	5,310	26,400
Total	227,000	1,540,000	93,300	518,000	76,700	352,000	397,000	2,410,000

¹Includes castings, forgings, and unclassified semifabricated forms.

²Includes Hong Kong.

³Less than ½ unit.

Table 9. U.S. exports of aluminum in May 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (<https://usatrade.census.gov/>.)]

Country or locality	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars ¹		Scrap		Total	
	May	January–May	May	January–May	May	January–May	May	January–May
Australia	119	393	196	690	0	0	315	1,080
Belgium	0	0	122	551	332	2,410	454	2,960
Brazil	0	1	276	1,270	69	1,650	345	2,930
Canada	1,350	18,800	17,500	120,000	11,100	48,400	29,900	187,000
China ²	121	792	568	4,890	21,900	114,000	22,600	120,000
Colombia	643	3,940	68	317	20	484	732	4,740
Costa Rica	1	10	28	125	10	55	39	190
Czechia	0	3	27	301	0	0	27	304
Denmark	0	3	2	21	296	1,570	298	1,590
Finland	0	13	24	145	0	0	24	157
France	912	3,230	702	2,750	195	979	1,810	6,960
Germany	322	1,090	398	2,000	0	749	720	3,830
Greece	0	0	9	42	39	918	49	959
India	34	302	402	1,750	39,700	141,000	40,100	143,000
Indonesia	0	0	4	37	8,720	29,400	8,730	29,500
Israel	4	17	234	1,820	0	0	238	1,840
Italy	3	72	96	655	79	859	177	1,590
Japan	30	317	869	4,350	2,500	10,200	3,400	14,800
Korea, Republic of	8	33	1,930	9,630	16,000	86,100	17,900	95,800
Malaysia	77	38,600	269	1,120	27,800	118,000	28,200	158,000
Mexico	12,000	64,500	23,700	115,000	10,800	49,300	46,500	229,000
Netherlands	0	7	42	174	504	1,940	546	2,120
New Zealand	0	4	34	267	0	0	34	271
Pakistan	0	184	0	0	2,280	9,960	2,280	10,100
Philippines	65	160	35	142	19	98	118	400
Poland	7	7	183	603	0	0	190	611
Romania	0	0	88	450	0	0	88	450
Saudi Arabia	0	0	1	66	45	65	47	131
Singapore	51	562	284	1,590	271	798	606	2,950
Spain	5	8	236	1,120	82	1,640	323	2,760
Switzerland	0	0	31	332	0	0	31	332
Taiwan	308	366	187	1,510	1,800	8,390	2,300	10,300
Thailand	180	1,140	58	199	45,800	216,000	46,100	217,000
Turkey	32	33	136	1,620	20	266	188	1,920
United Arab Emirates	162	930	21	299	444	1,260	627	2,490
United Kingdom	70	152	436	2,290	0	175	505	2,610
Vietnam	0	20	153	546	422	8,240	575	8,810
Other	202	352	272	1,230	130	313	604	1,890
Total	16,700	136,000	49,600	279,000	191,000	856,000	258,000	1,270,000

¹Includes castings, forgings, and unclassified semifabricated forms.

²Includes Hong Kong.

³Less than ½ unit.